

Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of increasing yield in a plant, comprising expressing in the plant a nucleic acid sequence encoding an aspartate decarboxylase polypeptide; wherein said polypeptide has at least 80 percent sequence identity with SEQ ID NO: 2, and wherein yield in plant is increased by expression of said nucleic acid sequence relative to no expression.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said expressing increases drought tolerance in the plant.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said expressing increases salt tolerance in said plant.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said expressing increases freeze tolerance in said plant relative to no expression of said nucleic acid sequence.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said aspartate decarboxylase polypeptide has at least 90 percent identity with comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

6. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said aspartate decarboxylase polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid sequence having the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of soybean, rice, tomato, wheat, corn, potato, cotton, oilseed rape, sunflower, alfalfa, clover, sugarcane, ~~turf~~, banana, blackberry, blueberry, strawberry, raspberry, cantaloupe, carrot, cauliflower, coffee, cucumber, eggplant, grapes, honeydew, lettuce, mango, melon, onion, papaya, peas, peppers, pineapple, pumpkin, spinach, squash, sweet corn, tobacco, watermelon, ~~mint and other labiates~~, rosaceous fruits, and ~~vegetable~~ brassicas.

9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of wheat, corn, peanut, cotton, oat, and soybean.

10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plant is transformed with a vector comprising said nucleic acid sequence.